

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 DRC-01 /119 W

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R 261630Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5596

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, IT

SUBJECT: TRADE UNIONS VS. THE GOVERNMENT - DIALOGUE AND AGITATION

1. THE FEDERATION CGIL, CISL, UIL (CCU) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL CONVENE ON 27 JUNE TO SET FORTH UNION POLICY FOR THE MUCH POST-PONED "DECISIVE" ENCOUNTER WITH THE GOI ON ECONOMIC POLICY. THAT ENCOUNTER NOW LIKELY TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE SECOND WEEK OF JULY. UNIONS MAY HAVE SOME DIFFICULTY IN ELABORATING A PRECISE RESPONSE TO GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS IN FISCAL AND MONETARY AREAS, SINCE GOI LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS WILL BE SENT TO APRLIAMENT THE SAME DAY, JUNE 27, THAT UNIONS PREPARE THEIR RESPONSE. MORE IMPORTANTLY, UNIONS ARE DIVIDED ON PROPER RESPONSE TO TAKE.

2. PROBABLE UNION POSITION WILL BE TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT WHILE AT THE SAME TIME INCREASING LABOR AGITATION AT LEAST TEMPORARILY AS A SIGN OF UNION DISSATISFACTION WITH THE GOVERNMENT PROGRAM. INDUSTRIAL UNIONS LED BY METALWORKERS ARE CLEARLY MAKING KNOWN THEIR CONTINUED DISSATISFACTION WITH CREDIT POLICY AND REGRESSIVE NATURE PROPOSED FISCAL MEASURES. THESE UNIONS WILL CARRY OUT A 4-HOUR "MINI" GENERAL STRIKE, ALSO ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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JUNE 27, OSTENSIBLY TO SUPPORT FARM WORKERS IN THEIR 24-HOUR

WALK-GT FOR A NEW NATIONAL CONTRACT. INDUSTRIAL UNIONS STRIKE  
PROMARILY INTENDED TO INFLUENCE GOI PROPOSALS AND PARLIAMENTARY  
DELIBERATIONS ON LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM.

3. LABOR CONFEDERATIONS MUST TRY TO RECONCILE MILITANT STANCE OF  
MANY INDUSTRIAL UNIONS WITH MORE CAUTIOUS VIEWS OTHER GROUPS. THERE  
WILL MOST LIKELY BE VERBAL FIREWORKS AT THE FEDERATION CCU GATHER-  
ING. TASK OF CONFEDERAL LEADERS IS TO CONTAIN DISCUSSION, REACH  
COMPROMISE AND ABOVE ALL AVOID OPEN DIVISION IN LABOR'S RANKS.  
THEY MAY THEREFORE ATTEMPT TO BUY TIME BY COUPLING TOUGH "NON-  
NEGOTIABLE" DEMANDS WITH INDUSTRIAL UNION AGREEMENT TO EASE OFF  
STRIKE PRESSURES. IF UNION/GOVERNMENT MEETING TAKES PLACE WEEK  
OF JULY 10 OR EVEN LATER, UNION LEADERS MAY BE ABLE TO PUT OFF  
FINAL JUDGMENT AND RESPONSE UNTIL POST-VACATION PERIOD. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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